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# UNITED STATES.

REPORTS TO THE SURGEON-GENERAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE.

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## PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

Surgeon Blue reports:

### INFECTED GROUND SQUIRRELS.

The finding of 2 plague-infected ground squirrels in California was reported during the week ended September 3, 1910. They were found as follows: One in Contra Costa County, August 20, southwest of Wildcat Creek, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of Alameda County line, and 1 in San Joaquin County, August 19, at McLaughlin ranch, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Tracy.

### ANIMALS EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

During the week ended September 3, 1910, there were examined for possible plague infection at the federal laboratory at San Francisco and the branch laboratories at Oakland and Los Angeles, Cal., animals as follows: Squirrels 2,877, gophers 6, rabbits 10, wood rats 1, rats 2,134. The rats were identified as follows: *Mus norvegicus* 1,807, *Mus rattus* 94, *Mus alexandrinus* 73, *Mus musculus* 60.

The total number of animals examined was 4,928. Two plague-infected squirrels were found.

### DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making of a squirrel-free zone around the cities on San Francisco Bay, 1,800 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended September 3, 1910.

### SEATTLE, WASH.

Assistant Surgeon Chapin reports:

During the week ended September 10, 1910, 841 rats were collected. Of these, 724 were necropsied and examined for plague infection. No plague-infected rats were found.

## Record of Plague Infection.

Place.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rodent plague.	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907.
<b>California:</b>			
Cities—			
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908	Oct. 23, 1908	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Oct. 26, 1909	Dec. 1, 1908	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907	None recorded.	
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908	Aug. 21, 1908	1 squirrel.
Counties—			
Alameda (exclusive of the city of Oakland)...	Sept. 26, 1909	May 30, 1910	82 squirrels, 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1908	Aug. 20, 1910	245 squirrels.
Merced.....	None recorded.	June 6, 1910	2 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	4 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910	July 11, 1910	20 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	None recorded.	Aug. 19, 1910	6 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910	1 squirrel.
Santa Clara.....	Sept. 5, 1910	June 22, 1910	22 squirrels.
Santa Cruz.....	None recorded.	May 17, 1910	3 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	May 21, 1910	5 squirrels.
<b>Washington:</b>			
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907	Feb. 8, 1910	22 rats.

## Rats Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Place.	Week ended—	Found dead.	Total collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
<b>California:</b>					
Berkeley.....	Sept. 3	0	a 148	114	0
Oakland.....	do.....	25	b 717	611	0
San Francisco.....	do.....	76	c 1,760	1,309	0
<b>Washington:</b>					
Seattle.....	Sept. 10	0	841	724	0

a Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 114, *Mus musculus* 34.b Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 604, *Mus rattus* 7, *Mus musculus* 131.c Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 1,416, *Mus rattus* 87, *Mus musculus* 260, *Mus alexandrinus* 73.

## Squirrels Collected and Examined for Plague Infection.

Place.	Week ended—	Trapped and shot.	Found dead.	Examined.	Found infected.
<b>California:</b>					
Cities—					
San Francisco.....	Sept. 3..	13	0	13	0
Counties—					
Alameda.....	do.....	70	0	70	0
Contra Costa.....	do.....	0	0	0	1
Fresno.....	do.....	388	0	379	0
Los Angeles.....	do.....	486	0	480	0
Merced.....	do.....	135	0	135	0
Monterey.....	do.....	455	0	443	0
Orange.....	do.....	131	0	131	0
Riverside.....	do.....	11	8	19	0
San Joaquin.....	do.....	291	0	291	1
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	741	3	739	0
San Mateo.....	do.....	10	0	10	0
Solano.....	do.....	167	0	167	0

## Other Animals Collected and Examined.

Place.	Week ended—	Animals collected.	Examined.	Found infected.
<b>California:</b>				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Sept. 3	9 gophers.....	6	0
Counties—				
Monterey.....	do.....	6 rabbits.....	6	0
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	4 rabbits.....	4	0
San Mateo.....	do.....	1 wood rat.....	1	0